

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4082

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 11983

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, SF, GW

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE EXCLUSION OF SOUTH AFRICA FROM UN

REF: STATE 161371

1. THE GERMANS OBVIOUSLY HAVE MUCH THE SAME INFORMATION WE HAVE AND HAVE DONE A CAREFUL ANALYSIS OF IT, INCLUDING TENTATIVE THINKING ABOUT HOW TO VOTE IN VARIOUS CONTINGENCIES. THEY HAVE GIVEN LESS THOUGHT TO PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY. THEY AGREE WITH US THAT IT WOULD BE UNDESIRABLE TO EXPEL SOUTH AFRICA.

2. JUNG, ACTING DIRECTOR OF UNGA DIVISION IN FON MIN'S IO SECTION, DISCUSSED QUESTIONS RAISED BY REFTTEL WITH EMBOFF ON JULY 29. HE SAID THE FRG TOO HAD RECEIVED A VARIETY OF INDICATIONS THAT THE AFRICANS INTENDED THIS YEAR TO TRY TO GO BEYOND RITUAL CONDEMNATION OF SOUTH AFRICA. AT THE SAME TIME, IT WAS NOT A FOREGONE CONCLUSION THAT BOUMEDIENNE WOULD DEPART FROM THE "HAMBRO
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RULING;" IN FACT THE FRG HAD INFORMATION FROM UNSPECIFIED

PARTIES THAT THE ALGERIAN PRESIDENT WOULD FOLLOW THE PRACTICE OF PAST YEARS BY INTERPRETING AN UNGA ACTION TO BE CONDEMNATION WITHOUT PRACTICAL EFFECT. THE QUESTION WAS WHETHER THE AFRICANS AND THEIR SUPPORTERS, DESPITE SUCH A RULING BY BOUMEDIENNE, MIGHT NOT PUT THROUGH AN UNGA VOTE ASKING THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO RECOMMEND EXPULSION OF SOUTH AFRICA UNDER ARTICLE 5 AND/OR 6 OF THE UN CHARTER. JUNG SAID THAT THE FRG SAW THE DANGER THAT, IF THE UNGA TOOK THIS ACTION, IT MIGHT ALSO VOTE A TEMPORARY SUSPENSION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S RIGHT OF PARTICIPATION, PENDING THE DECISION OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL.

3. JUNG SAID THE FRG WOULD VOTE AGAINST ANY RESOLUTION ATTACKING SOUTH AFRICAN PARTICIPATION IF IT WAS SEPARATELY PUT; HOWEVER, IT WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO REJECT THE WHOLE REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE ON THE GROUNDS THAT IT CONTAINED OFFENSIVE MATERIAL RELATING TO SOUTH AFRICA. JUNG SAID THE FRG WOULD BE INCLINED TO ABSTAIN ON A VOTE IN THE UNGA TO ASK FOR ACTION BY THE SECURITY COUNCIL AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA UNDER ARTICLE 5 OR 6. HOWEVER, THE FRG WOULD OPPOSE ANY EFFORTS BY THE UNGA TO SUSPEND SOUTH AFRICAN PARTICIPATION PENDING SECURITY COUNCIL ACTION.

4. JUNG SAID THE FRG SHARED OUR VIEW OF THE DANGERS INHERENT IN EXPELLING A UN MEMBER STATE FROM THE UNGA. WITH REGARD TO PREVENTIVE DIPLOMACY, HE THOUGHT ONE ARGUMENT IN PARTICULAR -- THAT DEPARTURE FROM THE UN WOULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR THE SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT TO DISREGARD INTERNATIONAL PUBLIC OPINION -- MIGHT BE USED EFFECTIVELY IN TALKING TO SOME AFRICAN STATES ABOUT THE DANGERS OF THIS ENTERPRISE. HE WAS NOT AT THIS STAGE PREPARED TO SUGGEST SPECIFIC CAPITALS WHERE DEMARCHE MIGHT BE MADE, AND IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE FONOFF HAD NOT YET GIVEN MUCH THOUGHT TO THIS POSSIBILITY.
HILLENBRAND

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